



**LOWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
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To: Linus J. Guillory, Jr., Ph.D., Chief Schools Officer

From: Paul Schlichtman

RE: Doctoral Research Proposal, Gregory A. Passeri

Date: August 29, 2019

Gregory A. Passeri, principal of the Shaughnessy Elementary School, is enrolled in a doctoral program at UMass Lowell. A requirement of the program is to complete an organizational problem improvement study. Mr. Passeri, a former assistant principal at the Wang Middle School, is looking to study the impact of the Wang fifth grade advisory program on student perceptions and social-emotional development of the students.

Mr. Passeri proposes the use of a student perception survey, and will provide written notification and the opportunity for parents to exercise the right to have their students opt-out of the study. Faculty participation is optional, and Mr. Passeri does not have a current supervisory relationship with the teachers.

This research is consistent with district initiatives to support social-emotional development of our students, and focuses on the transition to middle school that many students find to be challenging.

The work conforms with Policy LC. I recommend approval by the school committee.